

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in the present application. Claims 4-9 were previously withdrawn. Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the features of claim 2. Claim 2 is cancelled. No new subject matter is added. It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated March 24, 2006.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Aoki et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,407,982) in view of *Yao* (U.S. Patent No. 6,050,848).

The Examiner acknowledged that *Aoki et al.* fails to disclose the holder attached to a forward-end center section of the tray. However, the Examiner asserted that this feature is disclosed in *Yao*, *i.e.*, Figure 1 shows an adapter base (10) for receiving a cartridge memory (20), the adapter base having a lip (12) that reads as the holder attached to a forward-end center section of the tray. Thus, the Examiner concluded that it would have been obvious to provide *Aoki et al.* to have the lip (12) located at a center of the base (1) for better holding and in order to have more security between the tray and the card.

Applicants disagree with the Examiner's conclusion and in view of the following remarks respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the obviousness rejection of claims 1-3.

Yao does not disclose the missing limitation, *i.e.*, *a holder attached to a forward-end center section of the tray... along the insertion direction of the tray*. Instead, as shown in the Figures and described in the specification, the lip 12 (which the Examiner characterizes as the

holder) is clearly attached to a rearward-end center section of base 10, which is opposite the insertion direction of the base 10. See, *Yao* Figure 1.

Accordingly, even if one were to combine the cited references as suggested by the Examiner, the resultant combination would not be the present invention. Thus, the Examiner has failed to present a prima facie case of obviousness regarding claims 1-3.

However, to expedite prosecution and clarify the subject matter of the present invention, Applicants hereby amend claim 1 to incorporate the features of claim 2 and to recite that the elastic restraining piece is attached to a rearward-end center section of the tray. Support for this amendment is found, for example, in Fig. 1 of the present application. *Yao* clearly does not teach or suggest this feature. For example, FIGS. 1 & 4 of the *Yao* reference illustrates two L-shaped buffers 15 provided on the corners of the holder 12. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that this feature is not disclosed, taught, or even suggested by the cited references, either individually or the combination.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and above remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

Application No. 10/765,187
Attorney Docket No. 042049

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Amendment filed: June 22, 2006

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darin A. Auito", is written over the printed name.

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